

Title	Investigating the usability of off-the-shelf sensors and using patient data to diagnose frailty
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Publication date	2018-09
Original Citation	Munoz Esquivel, K., Kelly, D., Condell, J., Todd, S., Davies, R., Heaney, D., Barton, J., Tedesco, S., ; Nordström, A., Larsson, M. A., Nilsson, D., Alamäki, A. and Nevala, E. (2018) 'Investigating the usability of off-the-shelf sensors and using patient data to diagnose frailty', TMED 2018: Translational Medicine Conference: Innovating to Live Well for Longer, Derry, United Kingdom, 12-13 September.
Type of publication	Conference item
Link to publisher's version	http://www.sendocnpa.com/
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Download date	2023-05-07 19:38:04
Item downloaded from	http://hdl.handle.net/10468/9775



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INVESTIGATING THE USABILITY OF OFF-THE-SHELF SENSORS AND USING PATIENT DATA TO DIAGNOSE FRAILTY

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WEARABLE SENSOR TECHNOLOGIES
SENDoc



EUROPEAN UNION
Investing in your future
European Regional Development Fund

BACKGROUND

- Healthcare systems overwhelmed with an increasing demand due to population aging
- governments promoting remote/ in-home rehabilitation as a potential solution to reduce costs and free up resources in critical hospitals
- Remote home rehabilitation can empower patients to have control over their own rehabilitation process
- Wearable sensor technology is transforming rehabilitation processes by providing valuable information which previously was not available, to health care staff and patients



OBJECTIVES

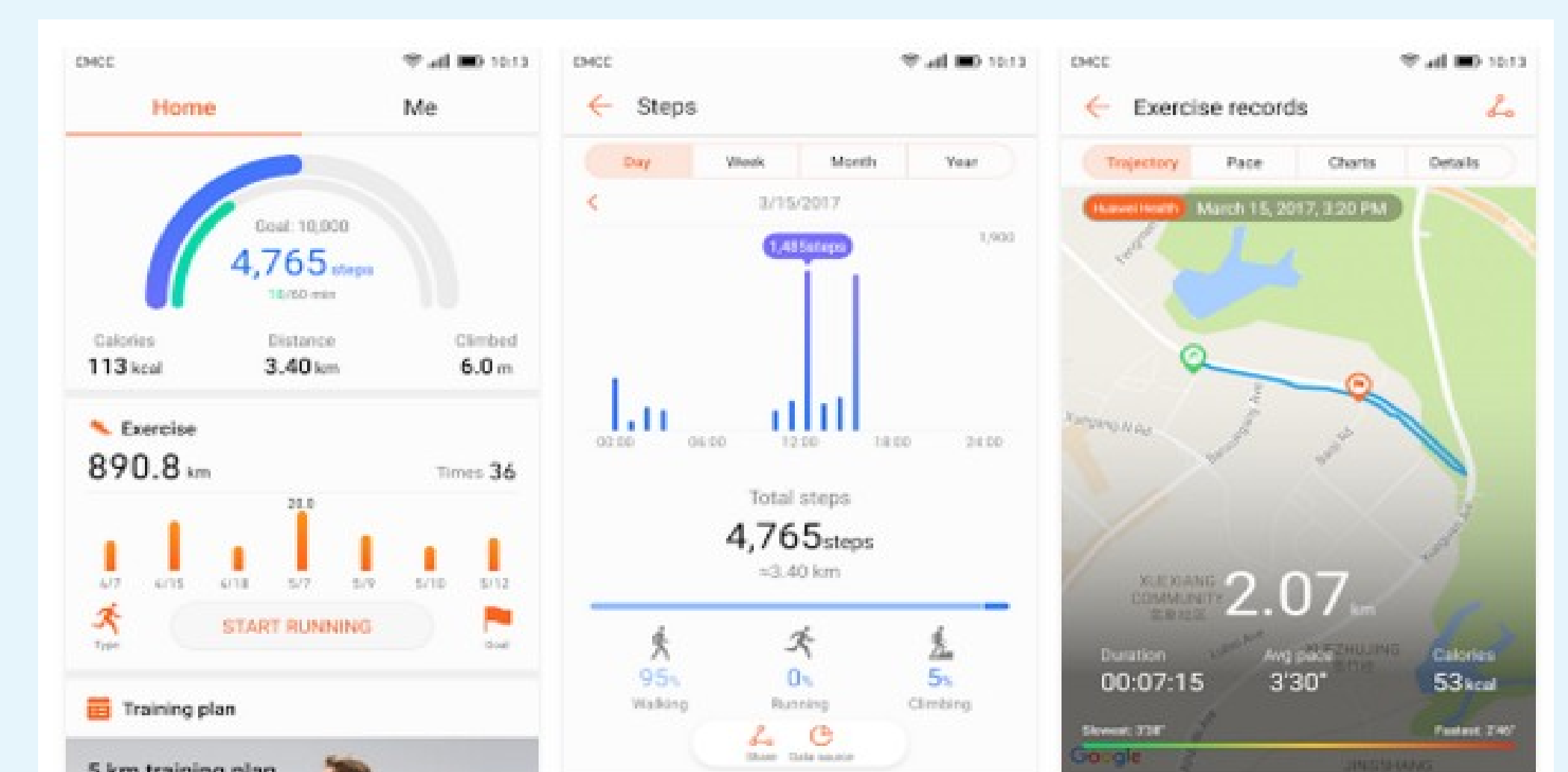
- 1ST Investigate usability of wearable sensors within elderly rural population
- 2ND Investigate effectiveness of “off the shelf sensors”, e.g. activity trackers, in detecting/diagnosing frailty



ACTIVITY MONITORING WITH OFF-THE-SHELF SENSORS



PATIENT HEALTH
RELATED AND
USABILITY
QUESTIONNAIRES



USABILITY??



AVOID
FRAILTY??

MATERIALS, METHODS AND EVALUATION

- In our SENDoc NPA project, we are evaluating the effectiveness of off-the-shelf wearables for monitoring and rehabilitating remote and rural patients
- we are conducting demonstrations in 4 partner locations, where healthy participants aged over 60 years will wear a Mi Band activity tracker (Mi Global Home, 2018), a data logger and a smartphone to attain comparable data
- The usability of this technology will be assessed from elders' perspective
- The data attained will then be analysed in combination with medical patient data to identify frailty
- We hypothesise that off-the-shelf sensors can be used to automatically identify frailty
- Look at the correlation between patient physical activity and patient data. Number of steps and physical activity and exercises performed, sleep tracking and heart rate. The latter will be looked to calculate energy expenditure.
- Statistical methods and qualitative usability questionnaires will be applied to validate or reject this hypothesis.
- Artificial Intelligence and machine learning methods will be employed to classify frail and pre-frail patients from non-frail patients

PRELIMINARY PHASE
(pre-configuration,
setup and collection
of patient data)

DEVICES ARE HANDED
TO PARTICIPANTS
(with booklet, manual
or FAQ)

PARTICIPANTS WILL
RETURN DEVICES
AFTER 5-7 DAYS
(fill in usability survey
and data collected will
be analysed)

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Results are not available at this stage. However, we expect that on-time therapeutic and medical advice can assist patients to recover full capacity, before frailty becomes irreversible

Other expected outcomes are:

- Enhanced understanding of elders' perception about using wearable sensors to gain awareness about their level of physical activity and overall state of health
- Attaining usability metrics of the available off-the-shelf wearable sensors
- Identifying the difficulties (if any) and advantages faced by elderly people while using “off-the-shelf” wearable sensors
- Attaining patient data that can be analysed/compared across the 4 partner locations of SENDoc
- Being able to diagnose frailty using related medical and patient data. The latter captured using off-the-shelf sensors.

